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D. REMARKS

Specification

Applicants amend the specification above to include the serial number of a related issued patent.

Allowed Claims

In the final action dated January 13, 2005, the Examiner rejects claims 1-15 and allows claims 16-20. [Office Action, pp. 1, 5] Claims 16-20 remain in the application and claims 1-15 are cancelled. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner issue a timely notice of allowance for claims 16-20.

Claim Rejections

In the final action dated January 13, 2005, the Examiner rejects claims 1-15 under 35 USC 103(a) based on several different grounds [Final Office Action, pp. 2, 3, and 4]. Claims 1-15 are now cancelled and therefore Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner remove the rejection from the application and issue a timely notice of allowance for allowed claims 16-20.

Double Patenting

In the final action dated January 13, 2005, the Examiner provisionally rejects claims 1, 2, 8, 9, and 15 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 2, 5, 6, and 9 of copending Application No. 10/015,838 [Final Office Action, p. 7]. Claims 1, 2, 8, 9, and 15 are now cancelled and therefore Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner remove the double patenting rejection and issue a timely notice of allowance for allowed claims 16-20.

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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request a timely issuance of a notice of allowance for claims 16-20.

Respectfully submitted,

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